

MEPA Analyst: *Aisling Eglinton*
Phone: 617-626-*1024*

NPC

Notice of Project Change

The information requested on this form must be completed to begin MEPA Review of a NPC in accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act and its implementing regulations (see 301 CMR 11.10(1)).

Project Name: Final Area-Wide Environmental Impact Report for Massachusetts National Guard Properties at MMR		EOEA #: 5834
Street:		
Municipality: Bourne, Sandwich, Mashpee, Falmouth	Watershed: Cape Cod	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: 372370E 4619294N	Latitude: 70 Degrees, 32' 5.8" W Longitude: 41 Degrees, 42' 51.9" N	
Status of project construction: 5% complete		
Proponent: Massachusetts National Guard		
Street: 50 Maple Street		
Municipality: Milford	State: MA	Zip Code: 01757
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this NPC May Be Obtained: Samuel Moffett, AICP		
Firm/Agency: URS Corporation	Street: 260 Franklin Street	
Municipality: Boston	State: MA	Zip Code: 02110
Phone: (617) 542-4244 Ext. 3817	Fax: (617) 542-3301	E-mail: samuel_moffett@urscorp.com

In 25 words or less, what is the project change? The project change involves . . .
Due to a recent change in mobilization training requirements and the availability of funding, the Massachusetts National Guard proposes to change the sequencing of ranges to be modified under the Small Arms Range Improvement Project at Camp Edwards prior to filing the Supplemental EIR.
See full project change description beginning on page 3.

Date of ENF filing or publication in the Environmental Monitor:

The ENF was published in the Environmental Monitor on January 10, 1986.

Was an EIR required? Yes No; if yes,
was a Draft EIR filed? Yes (Date: Environmental Monitor on December 12, 1996) No
was a Final EIR filed? Yes (Date: Environmental Monitor May 23, 2001) No
was a Single EIR filed? Yes (Date:) No

Have other NPCs been filed? Yes (Date(s): February 15, 2006 and September 15, 2006) No

If this is a NPC solely for lapse of time (see 301 CMR 11.10(2)) proceed directly to
"ATTACHMENTS & SIGNATURES" on page 4.

No
May 2001

PERMITS / FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE / LAND TRANSFER

List or describe all new or modified state permits, financial assistance, or land transfers not previously reviewed:

Are you requesting a finding that this project change is insignificant? (see 301 CMR 11.10(6))

Yes No; if yes, attach justification.

See Project Description and analysis below.

Are you requesting that a Scope in a previously issued Certificate be rescinded?

Yes No; if yes, attach the Certificate

Are you requesting a change to a Scope in a previously issued Certificate? Yes No; if yes, attach Certificate and describe the change you are requesting:

Summary of Project Size & Environmental Impacts	Previously Reviewed	Net Change	Currently Proposed
LAND			
Total site acreage	Approx. 15,000 acres (the Reserve/ Training Site)	None	Approx. 15,000 acres (the Reserve/ Training Site)
Acres of land altered	N/A	None	N/A
Acres of impervious area	N/A		N/A
Square feet of bordering vegetated wetlands alteration	None	None	None
Square feet of other wetland alteration	None	None	None
Acres of non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways	None	None	None
STRUCTURES			
Gross square footage	N/A	Approx. 4,000 square feet	Approx. 4,000 square feet
Number of housing units	N/A	None	N/A
Maximum height (in feet)	N/A	Approx. 20 feet	Approx. 20 feet
TRANSPORTATION			
Vehicle trips per day	N/A	None	N/A
Parking spaces	N/A	None	N/A
WATER/WASTEWATER			
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	N/A	None	N/A
GPD water withdrawal	N/A	None	N/A
GPD wastewater generation/ treatment	N/A	None	N/A
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	N/A	None	N/A

Does the project change involve any new or modified:

1. conversion of public parkland or other Article 97 public natural resources to any purpose not in accordance with Article 97? Yes No
 2. release of any conservation restriction, preservation restriction, agricultural preservation restriction, or watershed preservation restriction? Yes No
 3. impacts on Estimated Habitat of Rare Species, Vernal Pools, Priority Sites of Rare Species, or Exemplary Natural Communities? Yes No
 4. impact on any structure, site or district listed in the State Register of Historic Place or the inventory of Historic and Archaeological Assets of the Commonwealth?
Yes No; if yes, does the project involve any demolition or destruction of any listed or inventoried historic or archaeological resources? Yes No
 5. impact upon an Area of Critical Environmental Concern? Yes No
- If you answered 'Yes' to any of these 5 questions, explain below:

PROJECT CHANGE DESCRIPTION (attach additional pages as necessary). The project change description should include:

- (a) a brief description of the project as most recently reviewed
- (b) a description of material changes to the project as previously reviewed,
- (c) the significance of the proposed changes, with specific reference to the factors listed 301 CMR 11.10(6), and
- (d) measures that the project is taking to avoid damage to the environment or to minimize and mitigate unavoidable environmental impacts. If the change will involve modification of any previously issued Section 61 Finding, include a proposed modification of the Section 61 Finding (or it will be required in a Supplemental EIR).

Summary of this NPC

Due to the recent change in mobilization training requirements and the availability of funding, the Massachusetts National Guard (MANG) proposes to change the sequencing of ranges to be modified under the Small Arms Range Improvement Project at Camp Edwards by installing STAPP bullet containment systems at J and K Ranges and resuming the firing of lead-bullet ammunition. This action is subject to Environmental Management Commission and USEPA approval, and is proposed to occur prior to the filing and certification of the Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) as scoped in the Secretary's November 9, 2006 Certificate.

Regulatory Oversight of Camp Edwards

As noted in previous filings, the MANG proposes to resume small arms weapons training at Camp Edwards, shown in Figure 1, to military standards, in a manner that protects both human health and the environment (particularly groundwater). Implemented in a phased approach, the Small Arms Ranges Improvement Project will enable the MANG to upgrade and resume training on existing small arms ranges where military personnel fire lead-bullet ammunition. The action is regulated by the following entities: The Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (MEPA Office), Massachusetts Environmental Management Commission (EMC), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP), and National Guard Bureau. On a range by range basis, specific range design, operation, maintenance, and monitoring plans will be developed that shall meet the requirements of applicable Administrative Orders issued by EPA, and the specific Environmental Performance Standards for activities at Camp Edwards, under the oversight of the EMC, as established by Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 47 of the Acts of 2002.

Project Change Description

(a) Description of the project as most recently reviewed

MEPA review of activities at the Massachusetts Military Reservation (MMR), including Camp Edwards, began in 1986 and has been extensive. The nature and intensity of training activities at Camp Edwards were reviewed and certified in the Secretary's Certificate on the MMR Final Area-Wide FEIR in July 2001. That certificate created certain obligations

for the MANG, including adoption and implementation of Environmental Performance Standards (EPSs) and the filing of an annual State of the Reservation Report. A Notice of Project Change filed on September 15, 2006 proposed the return to the use of lead-bullet ammunition, was acknowledged in the Secretary's November 9, 2006 Certificate. This certificate created obligations for the Guard which included conducting the following: a lead fate and transport study (completed) and remedial investigations for T Range (completed) and E Range (on-hold); the establishment of action levels for lysimeter/soil pore water (completed); a Small Arms Range Pollution Prevention Overview Plan (completed); range specific operation, maintenance and monitoring plans (completed for T Range), and an SEIR (underway). The Guard has complied, and continues to comply, with these obligations.

(b) Description of material changes to the project as previously reviewed

Due to a recent change in the Department of the Army mobilization training requirements (a smaller mobilization window prior to unit deployment), the availability of funding and certain complexities and capital costs associated with the modification of E Range, proposed improvements to this range have been placed on hold. Recognizing this, the MANG proposes the advancement of two Phase II ranges, J and K Ranges for improvements and the resumption of live fire training with lead bullet ammunition.

J and K Ranges are 25-meter backstop berm ranges configured in a manner similar to T Range, which MEPA indicated in the Nov. 9, 2007 Certificate could proceed to state permitting. Placement of STAPP containment systems at these ranges will allow the MANG to manage lead bullets effectively. Through a series of demonstration tests at T Range, the MANG has gained information (i.e. "lessons learned") regarding the optimum placement and use of the STAPP system at the T Range, and this knowledge will be applied to the placement and use of the systems at J and K Ranges. Range maintenance, including the limited clearing of vegetation within the range footprint is shown in Figure 2. The relocation of the K Range backstop berm, target line and firing line, to line up with the backstop berm, target line and firing line for J Range, for range operational and safety concerns, is also proposed as shown in Figure 3. In addition, each range will be upgraded with a range tower (Photograph 1), pavilion, and enclosed bleachers (Photograph 2), totaling approx. 2,000 square feet of structure (per range) to provide soldiers with protection from the elements, as funds become available. Range lighting, if used, will be turned off at the conclusion of training.

The Massachusetts National Guard has received funding for STAPP containment systems, as shown in Figure 4, and is prepared to acquire them and begin installation in 2007. This action will aid in returning the MANG's ability to train Massachusetts's soldiers prior to deployment for overseas and domestic missions at Camp Edwards.

(c) Significance of the proposed changes, with specific reference to the factors listed 301 CMR 11.10(6)

The Guard hereby requests that the proposed placement of STAPP systems and return to lead ammunition firing at J and K ranges prior to the SEIR filing be determined insignificant in accordance with the factors described at 301 CMR 11.10(6):

- (a) The proposed STAPP installation and resumption of lead bullet ammunition firing at J and K Ranges do not represent an "expansion" of training activities at Camp Edwards since these two ranges have been used for small arms weapons training for over the past 20 years.
- (b) The proposed STAPP installation and lead bullet ammunition firing at J and K Ranges will not "generate further impacts" because the proposed return to lead-bullet ammunition will take place within the footprint of existing ranges and will not change either the nature or intensity of training activities.
- (c) The proposed STAPP installation and lead ammunition firing at J and K Ranges do not create a situation where the "expected date for commencement of project, commencement of construction, completion date of the project, or schedule for the project" have been changed, because no such dates were established in the Secretary's Certificate for EOEA #5834.
- (d) The "project site" has not changed.
- (e) No new application for a permit or new request for financial assistance or land transfer is required for approval of the STAPP installation and lead bullet ammunition firing at J and K Ranges.

(f) The proposed STAPP installation and lead ammunition firing at J and K Ranges will not “prevent or materially delay” the realization of the net benefits to environmental quality resulting from the EPSs crafted after the Secretary certified EOE A #5834 in July 2001.

(g) There has not been significant “lapse of time, changes in the ambient environment, or information concerning the ambient environment.”

(d) Measures that the project is taking to avoid damage to the environment or to minimize and mitigate unavoidable environmental impacts.

The MANG will develop and submit to the EMC and USEPA, range specific range design, maintenance, operating and monitoring plans for review and approval. These plans will include STAPP containment systems and the installation of lysimeters, to avoid damage to the environment or to minimize and mitigate unavoidable environmental impacts. In addition, the MANG is coordinating with Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (MNHESP) regarding the project. MANG will submit a Record of Action (ROA) describing the project and advising MNHESP that the project is within the MANG’s Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan goals, thus it does not constitute a “habitat takings”.

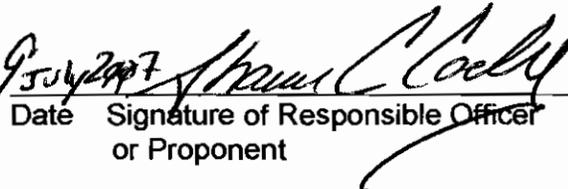
J:\10160347_P2Plan_CE\Tasks\Reports\NPC_JKJK NPC Form 07_09_07.doc

ATTACHMENTS & SIGNATURES

Attachments:

1. Secretary's most recent Certificate on this project
2. Original U.S.G.S. map or good quality color copy (8-1/2 x 11 inches or larger) indicating the project location and boundaries (Figure 1)
3. Plan showing most recent previously-reviewed proposed build condition
4. Plan showing currently proposed build condition (Figures 2, 3 and 4, and Photographs 1 and 2)
5. List of all agencies and persons to whom the proponent circulated the NPC, in accordance with 301 CMR 11.10(7)

Signatures:

9 July 2007		9 July 07	
Date	Signature of Responsible Officer or Proponent	Date	Signature of person preparing NPC (if different from above)

Shawn C. Cody	Samuel Moffett
Name (print or type)	Name (print or type)
MANG	URS Corporation
Firm/Agency	Firm/Agency
50 Maple St.	260 Franklin St. Suite 300
Street	Street
Milford, MA 01757	Boston, MA 02110
Municipality/State/Zip	Municipality/State/Zip
508 - 233 - 6520	617 - 542 - 4244 Ext. 3817
Phone	Phone

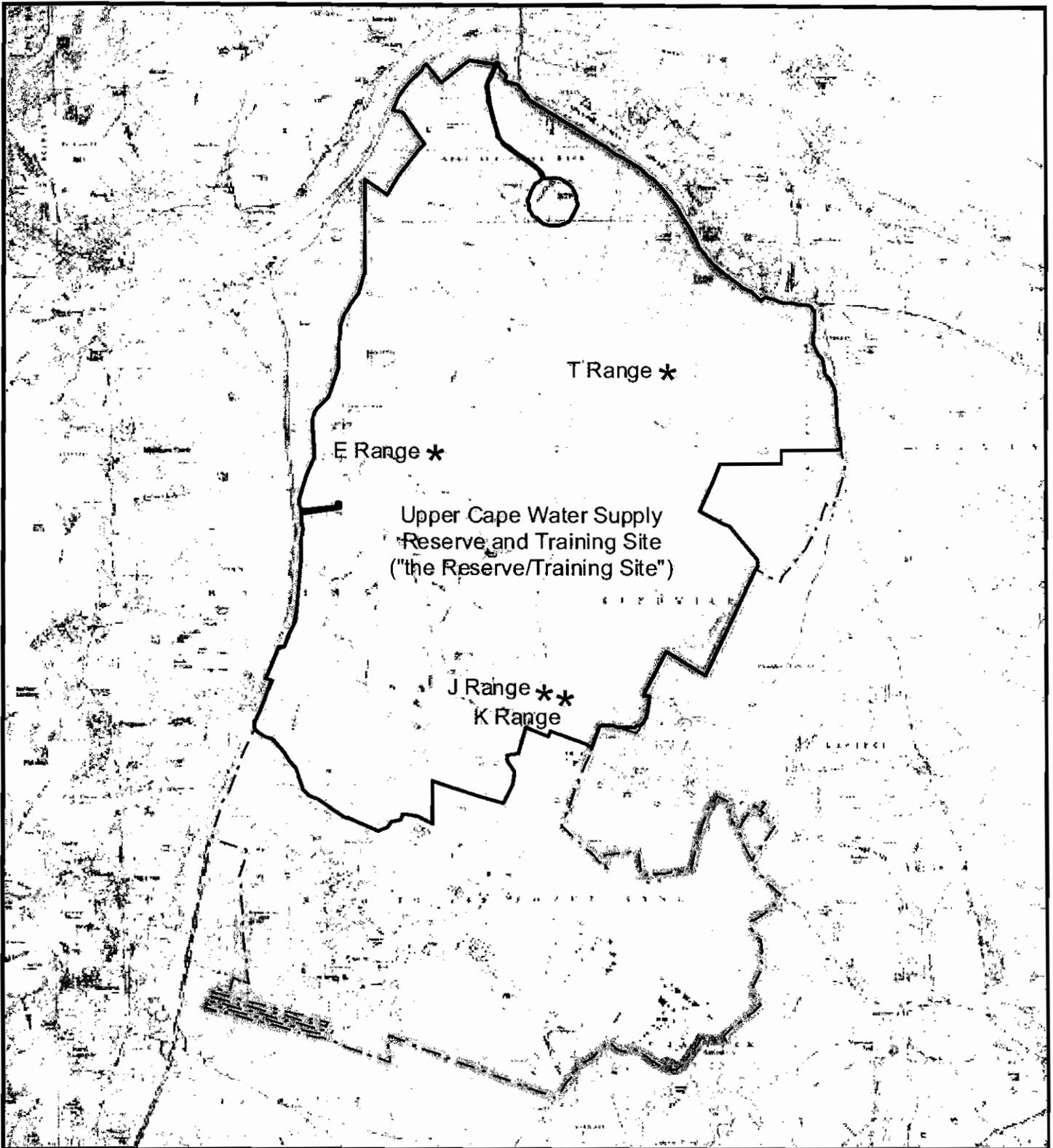
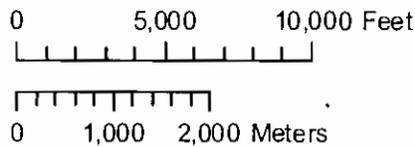


Figure 1 - Site Locus - Massachusetts Military Reservation



Date: July 2007

URS

260 FRANKLIN ST., STE 300
 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS
 (617) 542-4244

No warranty is made by the Massachusetts National Guard as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual use or aggregate use with other data. This map is a "living document," in that it is intended to change as new data become available and are incorporated into the Enterprise GIS database. Source: Office of Geographical and Environmental Information (MassGIS), Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, and MAARNG